, from the Georgetown Steam Plant to the Duwamish River,

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

RCW 197-11-970

Description of proposal: Georgetown Steam Plant / Flume Closure (Discharge)
The project involves placement of clean fill into a one half mile long open box flume to eliminate this channel as a pathway for drainage and ^ cooling water discharge into the Duwamish.

Proponent: City of Seattle, Seattle City Light

Location of proposal, including street address, if any:
East ~~Street~~ of Ellis Avenue, within the Boeing lease area at the northwest periphery of the King County International Airport; running generally north-south from the Steam Plant to Slip Number 4 in the Duwamish River.

Lead agency: ~~City of Seattle, Seattle City Light~~

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this DNS.

☒ This DNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 15 days from the date below. Comments must be submitted by _____.

Responsible official Randall Hardy

Position/title Superintendent Phone (206) 684-3200

Address 1015 Third Avenue

Date _____ Signature _____

☒ You may appeal this determination to the City Hearing Examiner, 5th floor, 400 Yesler, Seattle, WA 98104, no later than 15 days after the end of the comment period by letter of appeal and a $25 filing fee.

☐ There is no agency appeal.

Distribution: Seattle Dept. of Construction & Land Use
SEPA Information Center
Washington Dept. of Ecology

cc:

2-28-77

SCL 03973.1

CTY0048961

SEA289440

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), Chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." In addition, complete the supplemental sheet for nonproject actions (Part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:
Georgetown Steam Plant / Flume Closure, Discharge

2. Name of applicant: City of Seattle, City Light Department

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
1015 Third Avenue, Seattle, WA. 98104
Ms. Laurie A. Geissinger, Environmental Analyst (206) 684-3462

4. Date checklist prepared:
September 30, 1988

5. Agency requesting checklist: City of Seattle, City Light Department

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable).
May - October 1989

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. no.
~~The Fossils of the Georgetown Steam Plant~~ SCL 03973.2

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.
1. "Analysis of Historic Sampling Results from Georgetown Steam Plant and Environs", January 14, 1988, Raven Systems and Research, Inc., Seattle City Light Work Order #87-10
2. "Sediment Sampling of the Georgetown Flume", August 11, 1988, Raven Systems and Research, Seattle City Light Work Order # 88-12

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9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

No.

10. List any governmental approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

City of Seattle, Grading Permit

City of Seattle, Shorelines Area Permit

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The Georgetown Steam Plant ~~Flume~~ Discharge Flume, a one-half mile long open box, timber lined, 5'x7', Channel that was used to carry discharge water from the steam plant to the Duwamish ~~River~~ Waterway and more recently, has been used as a pathway for Boeing Company cooling water discharge; will be filled with clean fill from ~~the~~ other Seattle City light facilities over a period of months. This will permanently close the flume as a discharge point into the Duwamish and eliminate it as a potential source of pollutants.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

The Georgetown Steam Plant and Discharge Flume are located at the northwest corner of the King County International Airport east of ~~Ellis Avenue and Willow to Ellis~~ the Willow and Myrtle cross streets. Section/Township/Range are:

NE 1/4, Sec. 29, T24N, R4E, WM.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1 Earth

a. General description of the site (circle one):

(Flat,) rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other_____.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

This area is ~~all~~ fill taken from ~~the Denny Regrade~~ during the early 1900s dredging of the Duwamish Waterway and other sources including Beacon, Yesler and Denny Hills.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

~~No~~ Yes. Fill area will be seeded to prevent erosion of newly deposited material (see h. below).

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

None.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities, if known.

Dust

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

3. Water

a. Surface:

(1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Duwamish Waterway ; flows into Elliott Bay

(2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

Yes.

(3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

None.

(4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities, if known.

Presently tidal waters flow in and out of the flume. Once the flume is filled this will no longer occur.

SCL 03973.5

(5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

yes.

(6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

The proposal will eliminate the discharge of storm water ~~surface~~ runoff via the flume into the Duwamish Waterway.

b. Ground:

(1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities, if known.

no.

(2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals...; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

none.

c. Water Runoff (including storm water):

(1) Describe the source of runoff (including existing storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

~~Surface water~~ Storm waters will enter nearby storm sewers, ~~eventually that~~ which also discharge into the Duwamish Waterway

(2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

no.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any: ~~Diversion of storm and surface water runoff resulting from the flume's closure has been eliminated~~

SCL 03973.6

4. Plants

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

____ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
____ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
____ shrubs
__X__ grass
____ pasture
____ crop or grain
__X__ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
__X__ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
____ other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

artificial
The intertidal environment created by the fumes will be covered with and grasses will be planted on the site.

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

none.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

The site will be seeded with hardy grasses.

5. Animals

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: hawk, (heron), eagle, (songbirds), other _____

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other _____

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

none

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

none

6. Energy and Natural Resources

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

No energy needed.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

No.

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

None.

7. Environmental Health

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

No.

(1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None.

(2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.

Fill material will be tested for oil and PCB content prior to being deposited on the site.

b. Noise

(1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

None. (Noises exist however they will not affect the project.

(2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

Construction

(3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

None.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

~~Discharge flume for water~~ The flume is unused. Prior use included for cooling water discharge. The flume is a pathway for surface industrial process use and storm water runoff into the Duwamish Waterway.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

No.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Timber ~~framed~~ lined 5'x7' flume with concrete pipe sections under South Myrtle Street and E. Marginal Way South, also short concrete lined section at north end nearest to Steam Plant.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No, ~~the flume structure~~ ~~over the flume sections will be filled over~~. Two 42" Concrete pipes separating the flumes concrete lined and timber lined sections will be sealed off prior to the filling. The open portions of the flume structure will be filled over not removed.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

Industrial

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

None.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

None.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

None.

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

None.

9. Housing

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

None

10. Aesthetics

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas: what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

No proposed structure.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

None

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

None

11. Light and Glare

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

None

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

Does not apply

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

none

12. Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

Duwamish Waterway view; bird watching.

b. Would the project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

None.

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

The Georgetown Steam Plant is a Seattle landmark, National Historic Landmark and Mechanical Engineering Landmark.

designed by J. Franklin Gilbreth and

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

The georgetown Steam Plant is a retired 1906 coal and oil fired power plant known for its exemplary early use of reinforced concrete and vertical Curtis turbine generators. This plant contains all original machinery in situ and represents major engineering advancements in the generation of electricity.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

~~Filling~~ The flume is not contained within ~~the~~ local or federal landmarks designations. Filling the flume will not adversely impact ~~historic~~ properties of the steam plant.

14. Transportation

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

There are not public streets that serve the site. Access to the property is ~~across~~ from Ellis Avenue to private access roads within the Boeing Company

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

none.

d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

no.

e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

The project will occur in the vicinity of the Duwamish Waterway

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

none.

15. Public Services

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

16. Utilities

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: _____

Title: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Approved by: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS
(do not use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.